

nary tiger' that he was chasing amongst the low bushes and coarse grass and herbage; I joined in the hunt, got within three feet of the insect, struck at it with my net, but only succeeded in catching a bush, and knocking the insect down into the 'rough.' I searched for it long and eagerly, but did not get it. Of the identity of this insect I had no doubt: I was then, and still am, perfectly convinced that it was neither more nor less than Hera. I was so close to it, and the markings of the insect were so very distinct, that I had no doubt on the subject. As I cannot produce the insect, but can only say that I saw it fly, I am aware this piece of evidence will not go for much with other people.

"In the autumn of 1852 I was one day passing along near Icklesham, about six miles from Hastings, and the same distance from the sea; and I found, in a spider's web, the greater portion of the wing of a moth, which, although faded, was clearly of this species. I had not convenience for properly preserving it, but placed it in my cigar-case, and succeeding in destroying it, much to my regret.

"I made no use of these two latter pieces of information, for the simple reason that in the one case I could only say I saw the moth fly, and in the other that I found a portion of a wing, which, for want of proper stowage, was destroyed. This, I know, is very unsatisfactory information to lay before entomologists; but still, taken in connexion with the apparently truthful statement of the Hastings' amateur, these facts have made such an impression on my own mind, that I feel convinced the species is British. It is, of course, quite impossible that I can convey to other people the same strong impression that has been produced on my own mind by a string of facts occurring under my own observation: it is one thing to feel convinced myself, but it is quite another thing to set about convincing other people. I feel so fully satisfied the species is British, that I heartily welcome the Newhaven specimen, and shall place it in my cabinet.

"I think this species might reasonably be expected to appear on the South coast; and, if we knew a little more of the habits and food of the larvæ, perhaps it might be discovered in comparative plenty.

"That insects do occasionally cross the Channel I fully believe. I have had specimens of *Convolvuli* brought to me, whilst I was living at Hastings, that were taken twenty-five miles at sea; one being taken out of the water, its struggles on the surface having attracted attention; and two others, at different times, having been seen flying, and watched until they settled on the rigging of boats, and then captured. I also had a specimen of *Villica* that settled on a boat about fifteen miles at sea; and I myself have seen *Brassicæ* and *Aglaia* seven or eight miles from land.

"Whether these circumstances will be sufficient to procure for Hera a position in our British list I know not; but I have fairly stated all I can, both against and in favour of it."

Mr. Newman communicated the following:—

*Characters of Three Pseudomorphina in the Cabinet of Mr. Waterhouse.*

"Mr. Waterhouse having most obligingly lent me his collection of *Pseudomorphina*, I have given the specimens a somewhat careful examination, and find three species which I suppose to be undescribed. I take the liberty of offering to the Society brief descriptions of these, and at the same time of soliciting the opportunity of examining other collections of these interesting insects.

“ PSEUDOMORPHA AMAROIDES, *Newman.*

“ *Lævis, glabra; antennis, sterno, ventre, pedibusque piceis; capite nigro, labro ferrugineo; prothoracis et elytrorum disco nigro, marginibus arcute at manifesto ferrugineis.* (Corp. long. .3 unc. elytrorum lat .15 unc.)

“ Smooth, shining, black above, pitchy black beneath; antennæ pitchy black; head smooth, with two obscure foveæ on the epicranium between the eyes, black, the labrum and mandibles bright ferruginous, the latter with the apices pitchy black; prothorax black, its lateral margins slightly dilated and recurved, and brightly ferruginous; near its posterior margin are two shallow ill-defined foveæ; the scutellum is conspicuous, triangular, acute and extremely glabrous; elytra black, their costal margin continuous with the lateral margins of the prothorax, and like them slightly dilated and recurved, and brightly ferruginous; at the base of each, very near the scutellum, is an obscure fovea; the posterior margin is sinuate, truncate, and tinged with dusky ferruginous, the marginal ferruginous line of prothorax and elytra is very narrow, but extremely well defined; the entire upper surface of head, prothorax and elytra is covered with very minute confluent punctures; these are only discernable under a lens of high power, and scarcely detract from the general glabrous appearance of the insect.

“ There is a single specimen, the only one I have seen, in Mr. Waterhouse’s cabinet. Its habitat is 3753.

“ Although the *genus* *Amara* is now banished from our catalogues, the mind of the British Coleopterist, clinging fondly to the *word*, will see the drift of my specific name, should he ever meet with this pretty antipodean. Its size and figure at once call to mind the most familiar species of that most familiar genus.

“ ADELOTOPUS EPHIPIATUS, *Newman.*

“ *Lævis, nitida, picea, elytrorum paginâ basali late testacea, prothoracis latera pallidiora valde dilatata et reflexa; prothorax elytris latior.* (Corp. long. .2 unc. elytrorum lat. .075 unc.)

“ Smooth, shining, pitchy black; the sides of the thorax and the entire under surface of the insect inclining to ferruginous; the elytra at their base adorned with a somewhat saddle-shaped testaceous mark; head, prothorax and elytra minutely and regularly punctured; head prone, deeply immersed in the prothorax; labrum rounded and much produced, cheeks enormously developed; prothorax much broader than long, slightly broader than elytra, its anterior margin excavated to receive the head, and produced into an obtuse teeth on each side of it, its lateral margins much dilated and recurved; scutellum very minute; sides of elytra parallel, slightly recurved, apex truncate, the corners rounded.

“ Examples of this insect, which, when its mouth is examined, will probably form a new genus, are in the cabinet of the British Museum, as well as in that of Mr. Waterhouse.

“ADELOTOPUS RUBIGINOSUS, *Newman*.

“*Læris, nitidissimus, rubiginosus, omnino concolor, elytra sub lente forti subtilissime puncta.* (Corp. long. .175 unc. elytrorum lat. .07 unc.)

“Smooth, extremely shining, ferruginous and perfectly concolorous on every part of the upper and under surface; head rather large, convex, prone; eyes large, distant, black, prominent; prothorax very convex, very glabrous, its lateral margins slightly dilated and recurved; scutellum rather large, conspicuous, triangular; elytra very convex, parallel, the costæ slightly dilated and recurved, the apex truncate, the disk exhibiting a very slight appearance of striation.

“This pretty little beetle certainly resembles Mr. Westwood’s *Adelotopus aphodioides*, described at p. 404 of the fifth volume of the new series of Guérin’s ‘*Revue et Magasin de Zoologie*.’ There are specimens in the cabinet of the British Museum, as well as in that of Mr. Waterhouse.”

*Nests of Hymenoptera from Port Natal.*

Mr. Smith exhibited some nests of Hymenopterous insects collected by Herr Guenzius at Port Natal, and read the following notes respecting them:—

“I have the pleasure of exhibiting to the Society a number of nests of exotic Hymenoptera, collected by Herr Guenzius at Port Natal. This collection is rendered exceedingly interesting, by each nest having specimens of the insects by which it was constructed sent with it; it also receives additional interest from the fact of all the species being described ones. I have thought it desirable to give a reference to the work in which each species is described, as well as a description of the nests themselves.

“1. *Synagris calida, Vespa calida, Linn. Syst. Nat. Vol. i. p. 952.* The nest of this insect is constructed of the red earth common to the neighbourhood of Port Natal; the form at the base is an irregular oval; its length at its greatest diameter is nearly three inches; the height of the nest is an inch and a half, its general form being somewhat that of half an orange, having one side slightly elevated, forming the entrance to the nest; the bottom of the nest shows that it has been attached to a flat surface; only four cells are visible, all of which are empty; in two of these were found the remains of the corneous heads of some Lepidopterous larvæ; the upper surface has a hole opposite each of the empty cells, one being immediately under the larger opening or entrance used by the parent insect: the other holes are a little smaller: from these no doubt the insects made their escape: there is room for two more cells, and such may possibly exist, but neither the under nor upper surface exhibit any traces of them.

“2. Nest of *Synagris mirabilis, Guér. Voy. en Abyss. de Le Févrc, vi. Ins. p. 359, pl. 8, fig. 8.* This nest is much smaller than that of *S. calida*, and is probably in an unfinished state; its form is somewhat quadrate, with the angles rounded; it contains only two cells, each having, as in the other species, a separate outlet. This nest is constructed of a different-coloured earth, being of the ordinary mud-colour. It is exceedingly interesting to find that the habits of this genus of wasps is similar to that of *Odynerus*. I have in my possession a nest of *O. parietinus* formed of earth in a similar manner.

“3. The nest of *Eumenes tinctor, Christ. Hym.* This is a very abundant and